



ISABEL CROXATTO

GALERÍA



PRESS RELEASE

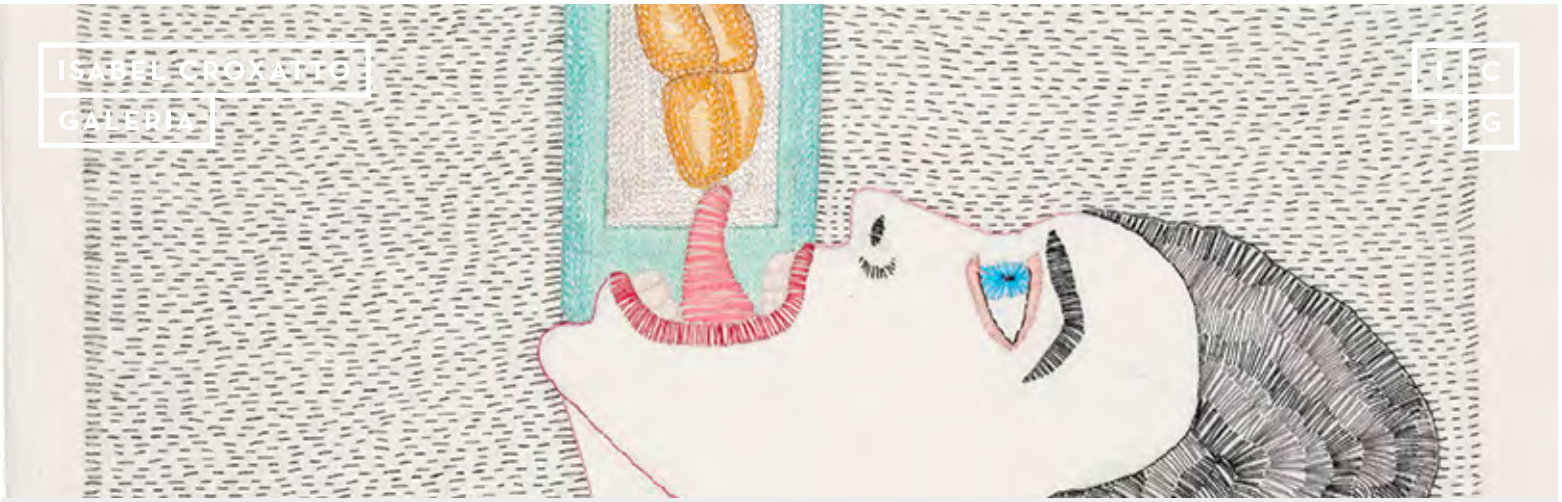
ISABEL CROXATTO GALERÍA PRESENTS *EX POST*, SOLO EXHIBITION BY TEXTILE ARTIST PALOMA CASTILLO

Isabel Croxatto Galería, international art platform based in Santiago, presents *Ex Post*, solo exhibition by artist **Paloma Castillo**. The exhibition gathers 20 hand embroidered pieces that comment on the Chilean state of affairs after the social outburst and the current pandemic, and will be presented **online from 25th November** in the virtual gallery space **ICG+**.

Isabel Croxatto Galería presents its third virtual exhibition of the year, furthering its programme of contemporary art online presentation, a resource that adds to its renowned efforts in the promotion of its artists' work at a national and international level.

Ex Post gathers a series of 20 medium-sized pieces created by textile artist Paloma Castillo. Through the analogue and mechanical exercise of hand embroidery, and in the isolation of the quarantine, the artist expresses her vision about the main events that have affected Chile in the last months: the contingency arising from the social outburst of 18 October 2019, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Current affairs have always been a catalyst for the work of Paloma Castillo, who for 24 years developed a career as a graphic and editorial designer in important publishing houses and newspapers in Santiago, such as La Nación, Estrategia and Diario Financiero. 'I have the habit of reading as many newspapers from Chile and abroad as I can. From that experience and perspective, I have also collected a photographic archive, in which I compile everything that is happening in the world. My previous career in the press led me to think about this exhibition', she says. '*Ex Post* is a Latin phrase that means *after the event*, and it relates to the influence that the news about the pandemic, the confinement and the revolt, had on me', Paloma Castillo explains.



Thus, through embroidery, the artist portrays different situations and events that give an account of her feelings about the latest events and their nuances, interwoven with representations of technology and new media, elements that are always present in her work. ‘My connection with embroidery comes from my mother and grandmother, distinguished designers and seamstresses, and now it is the medium through which I can express myself’, Paloma Castillo says. ‘I couldn’t help saying something about what was happening to us. The embroideries, in a way, are my response to how I was living and seeing what was happening from the solitude of confinement’, she adds.

Champagne bottles that become Molotov cocktails; faces that show their gaze through the intensity of the threads composing them; alien abductions, still lifes, and moments that are already part of last year’s Chilean national imaginary, are presented through embroidery, in which the movement of threading the needle, going through the fabric and returning with the stitch becomes a sway that distorts the represented object, causing a strangeness towards the ordinary. The fire does not burn, although the colours blaze.

In this regard, gallery director **Isabel Croxatto** comments: ‘Textile art is a prehistoric language, in which knowledge and dreams are archived and processed. In Paloma’s embroideries, recent history is archived, exorcising in each stitch the dream of a better world for all. It’s a labyrinth of emotions found in the utopia, between life and death; a creation that becomes a map with Ariadne’s thread, a sort of metaphor of the psychological and social perception of the current milieu.’

The curatorial text of the exhibition was written by **José Salomón Gebhard**, Doctor of Literature from the University of Chile, who states: ‘Castillo’s embroidery challenges the institutional rigour of art, even the most progressive, from a place assigned to the minority and marginal character of textile production.’ In addition, Chilean composer and artist **Sebastián Jatz** has created the soundscape that accompanies the virtual walk through the exhibition.

Ex Post by Paloma Castillo is presented at ICG+, Isabel Croxatto Galería’s new virtual exhibition space inaugurated last September with the show *After Nature* by Andrea Wolf.

Ex Post, virtual exhibition by **Paloma Castillo**, will be available to the public as of 25 November 2020 at www.isabelcroxattogaleria.com, with free access from everywhere in Chile and the world.



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EX POST | PALOMA CASTILLO

Text | José Salomón Gebhard

Soundscape | Sebastián Jatz

ICG+ | Online Exclusive

25 Nov – 30 Dec | 2020

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PREVIEW | [Artsy](#)

ICG+, Isabel Croxatto Galería's virtual exhibition space, is developed with the support of ProChile, agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile for the promotion of Chilean industries abroad.

Paloma Castillo is a textile artist and editorial designer, Bachelor in Visual Arts from the ARCIS Institute in Santiago. Paloma started her career as a designer, being part of the editorial teams of newspapers such as Fortín Mapocho, La Nación, Estrategia and Diario Financiero, among others, as well as publishing houses Metales Pesados, ARCIS, and LOM.

Her artistic creation is based on textile art and the practice of embroidery, dealing with issues that cross politics, technology, myth and modernity. Her production poses to the spectator the poetics of the return to the analogue object and the reflection of the making, in a context that is increasingly distant from craftsmanship.

The artist has exhibited individually and collectively since 2013 in spaces such as Galería de Arte Posada del Corregidor, Galería AQUÍ, Galería PANAM, and Isabel Croxatto Galería, in Chile; and Galerie Des Petits Carreaux, in France. In addition, she has participated in prominent international fairs, such as ArteBa in 2020, and Art Paris in 2019.

Paloma lives and works in Santiago.



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Isabel Croxatto Galería, international art platform, was founded in 2012 as a space of excellence focused on emerging and established artists with national and international recognition.

Located in a residential building in the heart of Santiago's El Golf district, its management focuses on presenting and promoting contemporary art from the south of the world, encouraging the work of artists in Chile and abroad, promoting new ways of collecting, and opening new markets for contemporary art through the collaboration with artists, curators, collectors, public and private institutions.

Isabel Croxatto Galería develops a programme of audience creation and new collecting encouragement based on the concept of 'Living with Art', generating a close space that invites into a dialogue with the artwork on a personal scale. Along with its annual programme of individual exhibitions, it proposes group show formats through open calls and collaborative curatorships, creating a dialogue between art and context. This is in addition to its participation in renowned international contemporary art fairs, such as Art Central (HK), Contemporary Istanbul (TR) and Ch.ACO (CL), among others.

In 2020, Isabel Croxatto Galería incorporates **ICG+**, a virtual exhibition space developed to host a programme of exhibitions specially designed for an online experience, bringing the work of its artists to every corner of the planet.

Winner of the Best Exhibition Award | Gallery Weekend Santiago 2018

Isabel Croxatto Galería is a member of AGAC, Association of Contemporary Art Galleries of Chile, and is sponsored by SÍSMICA, sector brand for Chilean visual arts, and ProChile, agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Chile for the promotion of Chilean industries abroad.

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